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Standing Committee for Programme Matters

Draft decision

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decisions 83/5 of 24 June 1983, 85/17 of 29 June 1985, 87/20 of 29 June 1987 and 90/23 of 23 June 1990,

Having considered the report of the Administrator on the Standing Committee for Programme Matters (DP/1991/4),

Taking into account the views expressed by delegations during the discussion of the subject, both at the plenary meetings of the Governing Council and during informal consultations,

Mandate

1. Decides that the Standing Committee for Programme Matters shall, with respect to the United Nations Development Programme, including its special funds and programmes, the United Nations Population Fund, as well as to United Nations technical co-operation activities within the mandate of the Governing Council, consider issues related to programme matters, including:

(a) Policy and criteria for programme planning and evaluation;

(b) Country and regional programmes and projects;

(c) Interregional and global programmes and projects;

(d) Monitoring and evaluations;

(e) Other matters related to programme management allocated to the Committee by the Council;

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Membership

2. Decides that the membership of the Standing Committee for Programme Matters shall be composed of all members of the Governing Council and that deliberations of the Committee shall be open to all participants in the Programme;

Bureau

3. Decides that the meetings of the Standing Committee for Programme Matters shall be chaired by the President of the Governing Council or by another member of the Bureau designated by the President;

Procedures, including drafting of decisions and reporting

4. Decides that the Standing Committee for Programme Matters shall work within the framework of procedures of the Council, in a similar manner to the Budgetary and Finance Committee, taking into account, inter alia, the latter's practice with respect to the organization of work, the preparation of decisions, as well as the reporting to the plenary of the Council;

Agenda and programme of work

5. Decides that the Standing Committee for Programme Matters shall, at its first meeting each year, determine, according to its mandate, its agenda and programme of work for the year, taking into account any matters referred to it by the Council;

6. Further decides that the Standing Committee for Programme Matters shall have in-sessional meetings twice a year in connection with the organizational meeting and the regular session of the Council; that every effort shall be made to ensure that the Committee's sessional meetings do not coincide with the plenary; and that a maximum of two inter-sessional meetings per year may be scheduled, as required by the workload of the Committee;

Field visits

7. Decides that, for information purposes, the Standing Committee for Programme Matters, in accordance with its mandate and programme of work, shall request the Administrator to arrange and service up to four field visits per year, each for an average of six members of the Council;

8. Decides that the specific programme aspects to be looked into during the field visits shall be determined by the Standing Committee for Programme Matters;

9. Decides that the Standing Committee for Programme Matters, in selecting participants for these field visits, shall take into account the equitable

representation of the membership of the Council and shall invite the participants to participate actively in the preparation of the visits and in the work of the Committee during the presentation of the findings of the field visits;

10. Decides that the selection of countries to be visited (no more than two per field visit) and the timing of the visits shall be determined in consultation with the Administrator and the countries concerned;

11. Decides that the findings of the field visits shall be reported by the participants to the Standing Committee for Programme Matters at its subsequent meeting;

Financial arrangements

12. Decides that in respect of low-income Governing Council member countries (up to $750 per capita GNP), the participation at inter-sessional meetings of the Standing Committee for Programme Matters of one official responsible for technical co-operation from the capital shall be facilitated by providing funding for travel and per diem to be financed out of the administrative budgets of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund;

13. Further decides that the participation in field visits shall be facilitated by providing funding for travel and per diem out of the budgets of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund and at the same time invites all donor countries, as well as other countries in a position to do so, to pay for their own participation in the field visits;

Programme of work for 1991

14. Decides that the programme of work of the Standing Committee for Programme Matters for 1991 shall be decided in the course of its first meeting during the special session of the Council and shall include an inter-sessional meeting in May and a first series of field visits to take place in the second half of 1991.